

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

APR 7 1969

TELETYPE

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FBI MEMPHIS

523PM 4-7-69 URGENT MEN
TO DIRECTOR 44-38861
FROM MEMPHIS 44-1987

MURKIN

Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
TO: Director
MEMPHIS

RE

NOV 6

MEMPHIS PRESS-SCIMITAR IN FINAL EDITION, MONDAY, APRIL SEVEN, CARRIED HEADLINE "RAY'S ATTORNEYS ASK NEW TRIAL." ARTICLE STATES THAT NEW DEFENSE COUNSEL FOR JAMES EARL RAY THIS AFTERNOON FILED AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTAL MOTION FOR A NEW TRIAL, CHARGING THAT RAY'S GUILTY PLEA WAS "A FARCE, A SHAM, AND A MOCKERY OF JUSTICE." THE THREE PAGE MOTION WAS SUBMITTED TO CRIMINAL COURT CLERK'S OFFICE BY RICHARD J. RYAN, J. B. STONER, AND ROBERT W. HILL, JR., RAY'S ATTORNEYS. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE RAY CHARGES THERE WAS CONFLICT OF INTEREST BETWEEN HIM AND HIS TWO PRIOR ATTORNEYS, ARTHUR J. HANES AND PERCY FOREMAN, OVER AN AGREEMENT WHICH GAVE ALABAMA AUTHOR WILLIAM BRADFORD REC-105 5699 C. W. HUIE EXCLUSIVE LITERARY RIGHTS TO RAY'S STORY. RAY REPORTEDLY DECLARED IN HIS MOTION THAT HANES AND FOREMAN ACTUALLY REPRESENTED WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE. THE PETITION CONTINUED THAT IF RAY HAD BEEN ALLOWED TO TAKE THE WITNESS STAND THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN NO STORY OR MOVIES TO SELL AND THERE WOULD BE NO PROFITS FOR THOSE PARTIES.

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PAGE TWO

COPY OF MOTION AND ITS EXHIBITS BEING SECURED AND WILL BE
SUBMITTED AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY.

ASST. ATTORNEY GENERAL JAMES BEASLEY, WHO WAS ONE OF
PROSECUTORS IN INSTANT CASE, ADVISED THAT HE HAD JUST RECEIVED
COPY OF MOTION AND HAD NOT HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY MOTION
AS YET. BEASLEY SAID THAT HE WAS NOT SURPRISED THAT MOTION WAS
FILED AS THIS IS NOT UNUSUAL PROCEDURE IN CRIMINAL CASES. BEASLEY
ADVISED HE DOES NOT KNOW ATTORNEY ROBERT W. HILL, JR. HE
DID STATE ONE OF LETTERS IN JUDGE BATTLE'S DESK WAS
FROM AN ATTORNEY, ROBERT W. HILL, JR., OF CHATTANOOGA, TENN., WHO HAD
OFFERED TO ASSIST JAMES EARL RAY IN HIS TRIAL. P.

END

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